

with international challenges. Our armed forces are a uniquely expensive asset and for some tasks no other instrument will do. For many challenges, however, the military is not the most cost-effective choice. We can achieve greater efficiency today without diminishing our security by better discriminating between vital, desirable, and unnecessary military missions and capabilities.

There is a variety of specific options that would produce savings, some of which we describe below. The important point, however, is a firm commitment to seek savings through a reassessment of our defense strategy, our global posture, and our means of producing and managing military power.

Since the end of the Cold War, we have required our military to prepare for and conduct more types of missions in more places around the world. The Pentagon's task list now includes not only preventive war, regime change, and nation building, but also vague efforts to "shape the strategic environment" and stem the emergence of threats. It is time to prune some of these missions and restore an emphasis on defense and deterrence.

U.S. combat power dramatically exceeds that of any plausible combination of conventional adversaries. To cite just one example, Secretary Gates has observed that the U.S. Navy is today as capable as the next 13 navies combined, most of which are operated by our allies. We can safely save by trimming our current margin of superiority.

America's permanent peacetime military presence abroad is largely a legacy of the Cold War. It can be reduced without undermining the essential security of the United States or its allies.

The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have revealed the limits of military power. Avoiding these types of operation globally would allow us to roll back the recent increase in the size of our Army and Marine Corps.

The Pentagon's acquisition process has repeatedly failed, routinely delivering weapons and equipment late, over cost, and less capable than promised. Some of the most expensive systems correspond to threats that are least prominent today and unlikely to regain prominence soon. In these cases, savings can be safely realized by cancelling, delaying, or reducing procurement or by seeking less costly alternatives.

Recent efforts to reform Defense Department financial management and acquisition practices must be strengthened. And we must impose budget discipline to trim service redundancies and streamline command, support systems, and infrastructure.

Change along these lines is bound to be controversial. Budget reductions are never easy—no less for defense than in any area of government. However, fiscal realities call on us to strike a new balance between investing in military power and attending to the fundamentals of national strength on which our true power rests. We can achieve safe savings in defense if we are willing to rethink how we produce military power and how, why, and where we put it to use.

Sincerely,

Gordon Adams, American University; Robert Art, Brandeis University; Deborah Avant, University of California, Irvine; Andrew Bacevich, Boston University; Richard Betts, Columbia University; Linda Bilmes, Kennedy School, Harvard University; Steven Clemons, New America Foundation; Joshua Cohen, Stanford University and Boston Review; Carl Conetta, Project on Defense Alternatives; Owen R. Cote Jr., Security Studies Program, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Michael Desch, University of Notre Dame; Matthew Evangelista, Cornell University; Benjamin H. Friedman, Cato Institute; Lt. Gen. (USA, Ret.) Robert G. Gard, Jr., Center for

Arms Control and Non-Proliferation; David Gold, Graduate Program in International Affairs, The New School; William Hartung, Arms and Security Initiative, New America Foundation.

David Hendrickson, Colorado College; Michael Intriligator, UCLA and Milken Institute; Robert Jervis, Columbia University; Sean Kay, Ohio Wesleyan University; Elizabeth Kier, University of Washington; Charles Knight, Project on Defense Alternatives; Lawrence Korb, Center for American Progress; Peter Krogh, Georgetown University; Richard Ned Lebow, Dartmouth College; Walter LaFeber, Cornell University; Col. (USA, Ret.) Douglas Macgregor; Scott McConnell, The American Conservative; John Mearsheimer, University of Chicago; Steven Metz, national security analyst and writer; Steven Miller, Kennedy School, Harvard University and International Security; Janne Nolan, American Security Project.

Robert Paarlberg, Wellesley College and Harvard University; Paul Pillar, Georgetown University; Barry Posen, Security Studies Program, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Christopher Preble, Cato Institute; Daryl Press, Dartmouth College; Jeffrey Record, defense policy analyst and author; David Rieff, author; Thomas Schelling, University of Maryland; Jack Snyder, Columbia University; J. Ann Tickner, University of Southern California; Robert Tucker, Johns Hopkins University; Stephen Van Evera, Security Studies Program, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Stephen Walt, Harvard University; Kenneth Waltz, Columbia University; Cindy Williams, Security Studies Program, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Daniel Wirls, University of California, Santa Cruz.

IN TRIBUTE TO STUART APPELBAUM

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 7, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Stuart Appelbaum, an extraordinary man and my good friend, who has served with distinction as President of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union, representing thousands of working men and women across our nation. Last month, Mr. Appelbaum was honored by the venerable Americans for Democratic Action (ADA) organization at its annual Roosevelt Day Dinner at the Roosevelt Hotel in midtown Manhattan.

Stuart Appelbaum became President of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union on May 1, 1998, and has been re-elected to the position twice since then. He previously served as International Secretary-Treasurer, Vice President, Executive Board Member, Assistant to the President and Coordinator of Special Projects for the union. Stu Appelbaum is also an International Vice President and member of the Executive Board of the 1.4 million-member United Food and Commercial Workers International Union. He is the President of the Jewish Labor Committee, and an officer of two global union federations: the International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers' Associations and Union Network International. He is a Vice President of the Consortium for Worker Education.

Mr. Appelbaum has also served as a Vice President of the national AFL-CIO, a member

of the federation's Executive Council from 1998 until 2005, vice president of the New York State AFL-CIO and of the New York City Central Labor Council. An honors graduate of Brandeis University and Harvard Law School, he previously served as Chief House Counsel of the Democratic National Committee and as Executive Assistant to the Secretary of the State of Connecticut.

A skilled and tireless political activist who has dedicated his life to progressive causes, Stu Appelbaum was elected a Delegate to the 1996, 2000, 2004, and 2008 Democratic National Conventions and an Alternate Delegate to the 1992 Democratic National Convention. In 2008, he served as a member of the Electoral College as an Obama elector from New York.

By honoring Stuart Appelbaum last month, ADA is upholding its finest progressive traditions. Founded by Eleanor Roosevelt, John Kenneth Galbraith, Walter Reuther, Arthur Schlesinger, and Reinhold Niebuhr, the ADA seeks to promote and preserve Franklin D. Roosevelt's vision for a New Deal for the American people resulting in a more just society.

With the election of President Obama, the ADA's mission of promoting progressive American values has gained renewed momentum. Past presidents of the ADA include several of my distinguished colleagues in this House: BARNEY FRANK, CHARLES RANGEL, JOHN LEWIS, and JIM MCDERMOTT. Stuart Appelbaum is a proud heir to the ADA's long and honored tradition, and it is therefore entirely fitting that his lifetime of extraordinarily effective and passionate advocacy has been recognized by Americans for Democratic Action.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Stuart Appelbaum, a great American and a great New Yorker whose life's work has improved the lives and working conditions of countless individuals.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 7, 2011

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on the legislative day of January 6, 2011 and missed rollcall vote 8. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF DR. BILLY TAYLOR

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 7, 2011

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, it brings me sadness and honor to pay final tribute to Dr. Billy Taylor. He died Tuesday, December 28, 2010, of heart failure in Riverside, New York. He was 89.

For eight decades, Dr. Taylor remained vigorously dedicated to nurturing jazz and creating new forums and opportunities for the artists who perform it. He encompassed that rare combination of creativity, intelligence, vision,